

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST I
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST II

Class No. 004405
Class No. 004400

DEFINITION:

To administer medically necessary occupational therapy as prescribed by physicians to children or adults with neuromuscular and/or musculoskeletal disorders and to perform related work.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

Occupational Therapists are found exclusively in the Health & Human Services Agency and the Sheriff's department. Incumbents provide medically necessary therapy to either physically disabled children or adults in the central jail.

Occupational Therapist I:

This is the entry-level class of the series. Incumbents under immediate supervision, work in increasing independence and responsibility with clients to provide occupational therapy services.

Occupational Therapist II:

This is the journey level class of the series. Under general supervision, incumbents independently assess and provide occupational therapy services to clients.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Provides medically necessary occupational therapy services within a school based setting to children with neuromuscular and/or musculoskeletal disorders or to children at risk of developing those disorders; depending upon assignment location, may provide group programming in the jails' psychiatric units and open sub-acute rehabilitation services to adults in jail medical units; schedules, examines, evaluates, and identifies physical capabilities and disabilities; develops therapeutic goals, objectives, and treatment plans; uses therapeutic techniques; monitors and charts patient progress; participates in medical therapy conferences; assesses the need for and assists with ordering medically necessary equipment; and maintains medical charts.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge Level: T = Thorough; G = General; = Not Applicable

Classification Level: I = I Occupational Therapist I
II = II Occupational Therapist II

Knowledge of:

<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	
T	T	Principles, methods and equipment used in occupational therapy for children, adults, and/or geriatric

		patients.
G	T	Special techniques of occupational therapy applicable to various physical conditions.
T	T	Human anatomy and physiology including all systems of the body, with emphasis on musculoskeletal, circulatory, and nervous systems.
T	T	Normal and abnormal growth and development of children.
T	T	Concepts, scope, and function of occupational therapy and its relationship to other health professions.
T	T	Medical terminology and record keeping.
T	T	Professional ethics, conduct, and legal issues applicable to the provision of occupational therapy care.
G	G	State, County, and program policies for the treatment of patients and the common patterns for the delivery of health services.
G	T	Construction, use, and care of adaptive devices and equipment.
G	T	Patho-physiological conditions resulting from injury and disease, and psychological reactions to illness and disease.
G	T	Principles and practices of promoting independence in activities of daily living.

Skills and Abilities to:

The following apply to both classes:

- Apply occupational therapy principals and techniques in the treatment of various types of clients.
- Deliver prescribed occupational therapy.
- Evaluate patient progress.
- Maintain a caseload and provide case management.
- Maintain effective interpersonal relations when dealing with patients, patient's families and caregivers, and professional staff.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

Education, training and/or experience, which clearly demonstrate possession of the knowledge, skills, and abilities stated above. Examples of qualifying education/experience are:

Occupational Therapist I:

A degree in occupational therapy from a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or Essentials.

Occupational Therapist II:

A degree in occupational therapy from a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) or Essentials, AND; one (1) year as an Occupational Therapist I in the County of San Diego, OR equivalent work experience as a certified or licensed occupational therapist excluding the area of pediatric occupational therapy.

SPECIAL NOTES, LICENSES, OR REQUIREMENTS:

Professional License:

Incumbents must be licensed as an Occupational Therapist by the California Board of Occupational Therapy.

Professional Certification:

In order to consider work experience under the certification option; certification must have been obtained by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy.

Note:

Occupational Therapy applicants who are new graduates, who have not yet been licensed or licensed occupational therapists in another state besides California, must show proof of application for licensure as an occupational therapist with the California Board of Occupational Therapy (BOT). They must have completed an accredited Occupational Therapy program, including the minimum hours of required fieldwork, and passed the national examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Applicants who have applied for and been found eligible to take the next scheduled examination and those awaiting test results can apply for a limited permit and practice as an Occupational Therapist under the supervision of a licensed Occupational Therapist. Applicants must obtain their license per BOT or they will be terminated from county service.

License:

A valid California Class C driver's license is required at time of appointment or the ability to arrange transportation for field travel. Employees in this class may be required to use their own personal vehicle.

Physical Requirements:

The ability to lift and move patients.

Background Investigation:

Must have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness with no felony convictions. Misdemeanor convictions may be disqualifying depending on number, severity, and recency. Prior to appointment, candidates offered employment in Health Services Programs that deal with patients and/or drugs will be subject to limited security clearance investigation performed by the Sheriff's Department.

Candidates offered employment with the Sheriff's Department will be subject to a thorough background check and truth verification interview prior to appointment.

Probation Period:

Incumbents appointed to permanent positions in this class shall serve a probationary period of twelve (12) months. (Civil Service Rule 4.2.5)